Nov. 13. 1647.

TVVO
PETITIONS
FROM

The Agents to ten Regiments of Horſe and foot, and of the Life-Guard, under the Conduct of his Excellencie Sir *Thomas Fairfax*;-

To the ſupreame Authority of this Nation, the Commons aſſembled in Parliament: in behalfe of themſelves, and all other the Free-born People of *England*.

Preſented in their names by the *Lord Grey* [an honeſt Member of the [House of Commons] together with an Agreement of the people grounded upon the principles of Common Right and Freedome, for the Parliaments concurrence thereunto.

Alſo the Votes of the Houſe upon the ſaid Papers thereunto annexed.

Printed in the Yeere, 1647.

TWO PETITIONS

FROM

The Agents to ten Regiments of Horse and foot, and of the Life Guard, under the Conduct of his Excellencie Sir *Thomas Fairfax*;

To the supreame Authority of this Nation, the Commons assembled in Parliament; in behalfe of themselves and all other the Free-born People of *England*.

Sented in their name by the Lord Grey [an honest Member of the House of Commons] together with an Agreement of the people grounded upon the principles of Common Right and Freedome, for the Parliaments concurrence thereunto.

Also the Votes of the Heads upon the said Papers thereunto annexed.

Printed in the Yeere, 1647.

To the supreame Authority of this Nation, *the Commons in Parliament assembled.*

The just and earnest Petition of those whose Names are subscribed, in behalfe of themselves, and all the Free-born People of England.

SHEWETH,

THat the Rights we claime in the *Agreement* (hereunto annexed) are our own, both by birth and purchase.

That we see no other meanes (under Heaven) to preserve those Rights unto our selves, and our deare Fellow-Commoners, then by so agreeing, and declaring.

That this *Agreement* shall (by Gods assistance) be maintained with the same resolution of spirit, and hazard of our lives, wherewith our freedomes were (as we thought) recovered, rather then we will suffer our selves by any force or fraud to be deprived of them or any part of them.

That it is equally grievous to us, whether wee be inslaved by King or Lords, but to be in continuall Conferences and Addresses, offered up by those we Trust, into the hands of such, as have manifested their tyrannicall Purposes towards us, and towards you for our sakes, is a danger we can hold no longer.

We do therefore most earnestly beseech you, to joyne with your tryed friends, and naturall Country-men in this *AGREEMENT* (every way tending to your Weale and Ours) and not with the King, nor with any others, by adventuring againe the price of our blood upon the unsafe and groundlesse Termes of Accommodation with perfidious Enemies.

That your extreamly-long-forbearing to settle the Peoples peace and liberttes upon your own Authority (Which indeed is theirs) Without any just cause to hinder you (your Capitall enemy being at your mercy, and a considerable Army at your commaund) is matter of great Jealousie, and hath necessitated us to betake our selves to this extroardinary way of remedy.

Edward Sexby Thomas VVatson Andrew Ley	Generals Regiment.
Robert Everard Edmond Bear John Walter	Lieut. Gen. Reg.
Thomas Burr William Russell Richard Seale	Col Whaley Reg.
William Pryor John Nicholson	C. Fleetwood Reg.
Joseph Allen George Hassall William Pickering	Col. Hewsons R. Com. Gen. Reg.
Tobias Box	col. Hortons Reg.
Humphey Davis William Brown	Col *Okeleyes* Reg. of Dragoones.
John Thomas George Clarke Arthur Yongue	col: Lamberts R. col: Sir Hardres Wallers Reg. col. Backsters R.

Die

Die Martis 9. Novemb. 1647

Resolved, &c.

THat the Matters contained in these Papers, are destructive to the Being of Parliaments, and to the Fundamentall Government of the Kingdome.

Hen. Elsing Cler. Parl. D. Com.

Resolved &c.

THat a Letter be sent to the Generall, and these Papers enclosed, together with the Vote of this House upon them, that he be desired to examine proceedings of this Businesse in the Army, and return an accompt hereof to this House.

Mr. REYNOLDS and Mr. PRIDEAUX are appointed to prepare a Letter to this purpose.

The-

The Agreement of the People, &c.

HAving by our late labours and hazards made it appeare to the world at how high a rate we value our just freedom, & God having so far owned our cause, as to deliver the Enemies thereof into our hands: We do now hold our selves bound in mutuall duty to each other, to take the best care we can for the future, to avoid both the danger of returning into a slavish condition, and the chargeable remedy of another war: for as it cannot be imagined that so many of our Country-men would have opposed us in this quarrel, if they had understood their own good, so may we safely promise to our selves, that when our Common Rights and liberties shall be cleared, their endeavours will be disappointed, that seeke to make themselves our Masters since therefore our former oppressions, and scarce yet ended troubles have been occasioned, either by want of frequent Nationall meetings in Councell, or by rendring those meetings ineffectuall: We are fully agreed and resolved, to provide that hereafter our Representatives be neither left to an uncertainty for the time, nor made uselesse to the ends for which they are intended: In order whereunto we declare,

1. That the people of England being at this day very unequally distributed by Counties, Cities, and Burroughes for the election of their Deputies in Parliament, ought to be more indifferently proportioned, according to the number of the Inhabitants: the circumstances whereof, for number, place, and manner, are to be set down before the end of this present Parliament. 2. That to prevent the many inconveniences apparently arising, from the long continuance of the same persons in authority, this present Parliament be dissolved upon the last day of September, which shall be in the yeare of our Lord, 1648.

3. That the People do of course chuse themselves a Parliament once in two yeares, viz. upon the first Thursday in every 2d. March, after the manner as shall be prescribed before the end of this Parliament, to begin to sit upon the first Thursday in Aprill following at Westminster, or such other place as shall be appointed from time to time by the preceding Representatives; & to continue till the last day of September, then next ensuing, and no longer.

4. That the power of this, and all future Representatives of this Nation, is inferiour only to theirs who chuse them, and doth extend, without the consent or concurrence of any other person or persons; to the enacting, [illegible] and repealing of Lawes, to the erecting and

[illegible]

abolishing of Offices and Courts, to the appointing, removing, and calling to account Magistrates, and Officers, of all degrees; to the making War and peace, to the treating with forreigne States: And generally, to whatsoever is not expresly, or implyedly reserved by the represented to themselves.

Which are as followeth;

1. THat matters of Religion, and the wayes of Gods Worship, are not at all intrusted by us to any humane power, because therein we cannot remit or exceed a tittle of what our Consciences dictate to be the mind of God, without wilfull sin: nevertheless the publike way of instructing the Nation (so it be not compulsive) is referred to their discretion.

2. That the matter of impressing and constraining any of us to serve in the wars, is against our freedome; and therefore we do not allow it in our Representatives; the rather, because money (the sinews of war) being alwayes at their disposall, they can never want numbers of men apt enough to engage in any just cause.

3. That after the dissolution of this present Parliament, no person be at any time questioned for any thing said or done, in reference to the late publike differences, otherwise then in execution of the Judgments of the present Representatives, or House of Commons.

4. That in all Lawes made, or to be made, every person may bee bound alike, and that no Tenure, Estate, Charter, Degree, Birth, or place, do confer any exemption from the ordinary Course of Legall proceedings, whereunto others are subjected.

5. That as the Lawes ought to be equall, so they must be good, & not evidently destructive to the safety and well-being of the People.

THese things we declare to be our native Rights, and therefore are agreed and resolved to maintaine them with our utmost possibilities, against all opposition whatsoever, being compelled thereunto not only by the examples of our Ancestors whose bloud was often spent in vain for the recovery of their Freedomes, suffering themselves, through fraudulent Accommodations, to be still deluded of the fruit of their Victories, but also by our own wofull experience, who having long expected, and dearly earned the establishment of these certain rules of Government, are yet made to depend for the settlement of our Peace and freedome, upon him that intended our bondage, and brought a cruell Warre upon us.

To

F. 150218

To the supreame Authority of this Nation, the Commons of *England* in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of those whose Names are subscribed, in behalfe of themselves, and all the free-born people of England.

SHEWETH,

THat we are exceedingly amazed at your Vote upon our Petition, and Agreement, and cannot but compare the same to the proceedings of the House upon our Petition prepared for his Excellencie, or upon the large and most just Petition, which was voted to be burnt by the common Hangman.

That your disclaiming of us herein, and your so speedy prosecution of an accommodation with the King (who sought our bondage and ruine so long as he was able) before the liberties of the people are cleered, and setled, or the Rights of the Army provided or secured, give us too much cause to feare, the same influences in the House, as lately voted the disbanding of the Army, usurped a Parliament Authority, voted a new warre; and the Kings coming to London upon dangerous tearmes.

That we are so confident, of the equity of our Agreement, and justnesse of our Petition, and so tender of the just Authority of this Honourable House, that we are constrained again to intreat your second Review of both; and that you will be so mindfull of your owne and the Armies Declarations, as to suspend all thoughts of accommodation with the King, untill those Foundations of common Freedome, wherein the good of all men is included, be firmly setled, it being impossible for us, or any free-born Englishmen, who rightly understand their Liberties, ever to forsake, or decline the same.

And wee doe further most earnestly desire all such worthy Members of this Honourable House, as doe yet remember their duty to their Native Country, not to let slip this opportunity of joyning with us in this Agreement for their redemption and ours, out of the hands of our proud, cruell, and treacherous Enemies, that we may live or dye together, in the vindication of our Native Freedome.

Subscribed unto by the aforesaid Agents of the respective Regiments.

To